- The Department of Women and Child Development is examining a draft legislation to prohibit sexual harassment of women at workplace.
- Amendments have been made to the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 so that the sexual harassment of women at workplace in the private sector could constitute an offence for which a workman is liable for disciplinary action.
- Necessary instructions have been issued by the Ministry of Labour and Employment during January, 2005 to all State Labour Secretaries asking them to take suitable action to apply the provisions of the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 to small establishments like call centres and shops in the unorganised sector.
- Media campaign has been undertaken by the Department of Women and Child Development to create awareness on various issues concerning women and children , including compliance with the Supreme Court's guidelines on the prevention of sexual harassment of women at workplace.

Peace education in schools

501. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have felt that children can do with lessons in peace;

(b) if so, whether Government are now considering introduction of peace education in the school curriculum;

(c) if so, whether Government had held talks with the State Governments;

(d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and

(e) the amount allocated/to be allocated during the Tenth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) Education for Peace, according to the National Curriculum Framework

(NCF), 2005 developed by the NCERT, follows an integrated approach permeating throughout the school curriculum. It is considered to be the undercurrent of the total process of education, including textbooks, co-curricular activities, school climate, teacher attitudes, pedagogy etc. and not simply through lessons in peace. Textual material-language, presentation and the illustrations etc. being developed by NCERT will be imbued by the peace perspective, wherever appropriate. In the teacher education programme, peace education has been recommended as a separate concern.

The NCF 2005 and the position paper entitled 'Education for Peace' developed by the National Focus Group on Peace Education as part of the curriculum package was approved by the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) on 6th September, 2005 which had representatives from State Governments.

(e) There is no separate allocation for this purpose during the Tenth Five Year Plan period.

Status of Chairpersons and Members of certain Commissions

502. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the status to the Chairpersons and Members of the (i) National Human Rights Commission, (ii) Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission, (iii) Minorities Commission and (iv) National Commission for Women; and

(b) whether Government would ensure that status of the Chairpersons and Members of the National Commission for Women is at par with those of other commissions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The status accorded to the Chairperson and Members of the (i) National Human Rights Commission; (ii) National Commission for Scheduled Castes; (iii) National Commission for Scheduled Tribes; and (iv) National Commission for Minorities is as per the statement annexed. (*See* Below) In the case of National Commission for Women (NCW), the Chairperson and Members have not been accorded any particular status. However, the Chairperson of the NCW is allowed the pay scale of Rs.26,000/- which is